

Research Brief

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No Child Left Behind Act Changes the Face of Schools' Performance Accountability

The federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 has changed the way we look at student performance. It is no longer enough just to rank schools or school districts based on their achievement on certain performance or participation indicators. The law has set a bar that determines the level at which students are expected to achieve, and the focus is now not as much on how schools and districts measure up to each other, but on whether or not they meet the standard set by the law.

Following the 2002-03 school year, 60 schools in Southeastern Wisconsin's school districts were identified for improvement by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, in compliance with the No Child Left Behind Act. The vast majority of the region's 94 school districts did not have any schools on the list. In fact, only Kenosha, Milwaukee, and Racine had schools on this list, along with Central City Cyberschool, a charter school chartered by the City of Milwaukee.

There are several annual measurable objectives set by the state; schools must miss the same one two years in a row in order to be placed on the Schools Identified for Improvement list. Therefore, as we highlight in this Research Brief, schools can miss one or more objective without being identified for improvement. One hundred and three schools missed at least one of these objectives but were not placed on the list.

The Public Policy Forum's Annual Public Schooling in Southeastern Wisconsin

The Public Policy Forum's annual report on public schools in Southeastern Wisconsin is currently available to purchase for \$20. The report includes:

- An expanded analysis of budgeted finances for the 2002-03 school year for each of the 94 school districts in the seven-county region.
- Rankings of K-12 school districts in the region according to enrollment, student participation, student performance, and college preparatory indicators.
- A pull-out poster which provides the rankings information in an easily accessible format.
- A look at how the districts measure up to the student performance requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act.
- A compilation of student demographic characteristics in each of the school districts.
- A directory of school officials throughout the region.

The Public Policy Forum's annual Public Schooling in Southeastern Wisconsin report is currently available. To order, contact the Forum at:

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No Child Left Behind Act Provisions



The federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), which provides much of the federal aid that Wisconsin's public schools receive (\$272 million in 2002-03). Title I of ESEA provides aid to schools that have a substantial number of low-income students; NCLB requires those schools that receive Title I funding to meet certain student achievement standards. Wisconsin, as the entity which receives Title I funding and then distributes it to the schools, set annual measurable objectives (AMOs) for each school in the state; if the AMOs are met by all students in a school, including by students in subgroups based on English language proficiency, economic position, and ethnic background, that school has achieved adequate yearly progress (AYP) and has met the NCLB requirement. It should be noted that, although schools not receiving Title I funds are not subject to such federal requirements, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) has decided to hold all of the state's schools subject to these accountability standards.

The student performance AMOs are based on the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concept Exams (WKCEs), which are currently taken by fourth, eighth, and tenth graders. Students' scores on each subject area on these exams are divided into four possible categories that indicate their mastery of each subject: minimal (which is the lowest mastery), basic, proficient, and advanced (which is the highest level). The goal of NCLB is that every student will score proficient or advanced in reading and math by the 2013-14 school year. DPI has set AMOs with the goal of achieving that standard. For the 2002-03 school year, schools met their AMO if 61% of students scored at or above proficient in reading and 37% scored at or above proficient in math. Even if a school fails to achieve these performance AMOs, it is considered to have made AYP if it fulfills the so-called "safe harbor" provision: a 10% decrease in the number of students who achieved below proficiency, and attainment of a science indicator goal.

Wisconsin also has two more AMOs. One is that at least 95% of students in each school and subgroup take the WKCEs. The other AMO is based on either the attendance rate or the graduation rate. For high schools, the graduation rate needs to be either 90% of the statewide average or better than the previous year, in order to meet the AMO. For elementary and middle schools, the attendance rate needs to be either 90% of the statewide average or better than the previous year, in order to meet the AMO.

If a school fails to achieve AYP in the same measure for two consecutive years, that school is placed on a "Schools Identified for Improvement" (SIFI) list. Title I schools that are placed on that list are subject to such sanctions as being required to use Title I funding to provide transportation to students who wish to attend other public schools in the district that are not on the SIFI list and providing supplemental services such as one-on-one tutoring to students who do remain in the school. If the school remains on the list for multiple years, it will eventually be required to restructure. Wisconsin requires non-Title I schools identified for improvement to develop and eventually implement school improvement plans. Schools can be taken off the list after they have achieved AYP in the identified standard(s) for two consecutive years.

Sixty Southeastern Wisconsin Schools Identified for Improvement



On the following page we present a table of those schools placed on the SIFI list. Throughout this Brief, we present the schools wherein the students as a whole missed each AMO in the most recent year for which data are available. Since we do not include disaggregated test score results by race and economic advantage, a school may be on the SIFI list and not on any of our missed AMO tables since a school can fail to achieve AYP if students in any of the subgroups fail to meet the AMO. Additionally, just because a school missed an AMO as indicated in our tables does not mean that it will be identified for improvement. The school has to miss the same AMO two years in a row and not achieve the safe harbor provision for that to happen. Also, since DPI's plan was just recently accepted by the federal government, only test scores were included in determining the SIFI list; thus, our presentation on attendance and graduation rates has nothing to do with current schools being identified for improvement, and since they are from 2001-02 rather than 2002-03, cannot be looked at in combination with the test scores. The attendance and graduation rate tables are merely presented here in order to illustrate that some schools failed to meet the state standard.

Table 2 on the next page shows the Southeastern Wisconsin schools that were identified for improvement following the 2002-03 school year. Only three of the region's 94 school districts, Kenosha, Milwaukee, and Racine, are represented on the SIFI list, along with Central City Cyberschool, which is a charter school authorized by the City of Milwaukee. In publishing the state's SIFI list, DPI also noted which level the schools are. A Level 1 school has missed AYP for two consecutive years, and is thus on the list for the first year. If these schools receive Title I funding, they are subject to the following federal sanctions: the development of a two-year school improvement plan and the implementation of public school choice, which means that students must be allowed to attend other schools in the district which are not on the SIFI list, and transportation must be provided by the sending school. There are 22 Level 1 schools. Level 2 schools have missed AYP for three consecutive years; thus it is their second year on the SIFI list. Such schools must update their two-year school improvement plan under federal regulations, continue to provide public school choice, and implement supplemental educational services to those students who remain in the schools. Thirty-one schools are identified as Level 2. Level 3 schools have missed AYP for four consecutive years and are on the list for the third year. Such schools must again update their school improvement plans, provide school choice, and provide supplemental services. Additionally, a Level 3 school must take corrective action, which involves at least one of several options including the replacement of school staff or the institution of a new curriculum. There are seven Level 3 schools, which are listed below in Table 1. When a school reaches the Level 4 level, it needs to submit a restructuring plan requiring alternative governance. No schools have yet reached that designation. It should also be noted that several schools have "improved" after their level designation, which indicates that the school has made AYP for one year in a category in which it previously failed to meet AYP; therefore, if it achieves AYP for another year, it could be taken off the list.

Table 1. Level Three Schools Identified for Improvement

School	2002-03 Enrollment	2002-03 Grades
Bell Middle School	857	6-8
Bryant Elementary	419	K4-5
Kosciuszko Middle School	676	6-8
Malcom X Academy	536	6-8
Marshall High School	1,350	9-12
Milwaukee Spectrum School	91	9-11
Muir Middle School	843	6-8



Table 2. 2002-03 Southeastern Wisconsin Schools Identified for Improvement

District	School	Charter School	Identification Level
Kenosha County			
Kenosha	Bain Elementary		Level 2 Improved
Kenosha	Hillcrest High School		Level 1
Milwaukee County			
City of Milwaukee	Central City Cyberschool	x	Level 2
Milwaukee Public Schools	Aurora Weier Educational Center		Level 1
Milwaukee Public Schools	Bay View High School		Level 2 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Bell Middle School		Level 3
Milwaukee Public Schools	Benjamin Carson Academy of Science		Level 2 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Bradley Technology and Trade High School		Level 2
Milwaukee Public Schools	Bryant Elementary		Level 3
Milwaukee Public Schools	Carleton Elementary		Level 2 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Cass Street Elementary		Level 2 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Douglas Community Academy		Level 2 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Educational Possentem		Level 1
Milwaukee Public Schools	Eighty-First Street Elementary		Level 2 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Fifty-Third Street Elementary		Level 1 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Forest Home Avenue Elementary		Level 2 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Fritsche (LEAP)		Level 2 Continued
Milwaukee Public Schools	Garfield Avenue Elementary		Level 2
Milwaukee Public Schools	Global Learning Center		Level 2
Milwaukee Public Schools	Goodrich Elementary		Level 1 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Grand Avenue Middle School		Level 1 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Grand View Alternative High Partnership		Level 2 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Granville Elementary		Level 1
Milwaukee Public Schools	Hopkins Street Elementary		Level 1
Milwaukee Public Schools	HR Academy		Level 1
Milwaukee Public Schools	Juneau High School	x	Level 2 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Kagel Elementary		Level 2 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Kilmer South Alternative High School		Level 1 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Kosciuszko Middle School		Level 3
Milwaukee Public Schools	Learning Enterprise of Wisconsin		Level 1
Milwaukee Public Schools	Lloyd Street Elementary		Level 1 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Loyola Academy		Level 2 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Madison High School		Level 1
Milwaukee Public Schools	Malcom X Academy	x	Level 3
Milwaukee Public Schools	Maple Tree Elementary		Level 1 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Marshall High School		Level 3
Milwaukee Public Schools	Metropolitan High School		Level 1 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Milwaukee Education Center		Level 2 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Milwaukee Spectrum School		Level 3
Milwaukee Public Schools	Milwaukee Village School		Level 1
Milwaukee Public Schools	Muir Middle School		Level 3
Milwaukee Public Schools	North Division High School		Level 2 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Philipp Elementary		Level 2 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Pulaski High School		Level 2 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Robinson Middle School		Level 2 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	South Division High School		Level 2 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Steuben Middle School		Level 2 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Thirty-Eighth Street Elementary		Level 1
Milwaukee Public Schools	Twenty-First Street Elementary		Level 1
Milwaukee Public Schools	Vincent High School		Level 2 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Walker (SWELL)		Level 2 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Walker International Middle School	x	Level 2 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Washington High School		Level 2
Milwaukee Public Schools	Westside II Elementary	x	Level 2 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Wisconsin Conservatory of Lifelong Learning		Level 2 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Windlake Seeds of Health Partnership		Level 1 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Wisconsin Avenue Elementary		Level 2 Improved
Milwaukee Public Schools	Wisconsin Career Academy	x	Level 1 Improved
Racine County			
Racine	Fratt Elementary		Level 1 Improved
Racine	Mitchell Middle School		Level 1 Improved

136 Schools Miss Standardized Test Annual Measurable Objectives



Tables 3, 4, and 5 on the next four pages show the schools in Southeastern Wisconsin that failed to achieve the WKCE AMO. The percentages shown in the tables are based on those students who attended the school for the full academic year (as opposed to the total number of students, which includes those who transferred from other schools during the year). It should be noted that in some cases there are significant discrepancies between the scores of students who attended the school for the full academic year and those of all the students in the school. In some cases, if the school was measured based on the total number of students in the school as opposed to full academic year students, the school would achieve its AMO. Those schools are noted with an asterisk in the tables.

It should also be noted that, in preparation for the 2002-03 school year, DPI changed the “cut scores,” those raw scores that determine the mastery level at which students achieve. In many cases, the cut scores were lowered, meaning students do not have to score as high to achieve at proficient or advanced levels as they did in the past. One key reason is the testing date has been moved from near the end of the school year to near the beginning; thus, students are being evaluated based on the knowledge and skills they should have at the beginning of the year, rather than at the end of the year.

Table 3 shows those schools in the region that failed to achieve the fourth grade WKCE AMO in 2002-03. There are 70 such schools in Southeastern Wisconsin. Again, MPS has the most representation, with 56 schools, while Kenosha has six, Racine has two, and Delavan-Darien has one. Also, five non-MPS Milwaukee charter schools — Central City Cyberschool, Khamit Institute, Milwaukee Academy of Science, Urban League Academy, and YW Global Career Academy — failed to achieve their fourth grade AMO. The majority of schools, 52.9%, that missed the fourth grade AMO failed in both reading and math, while 35.7% missed only the reading objective, and 11.4% missed only math.

Although there are more schools that missed the fourth grade AMO than either the eighth grade or tenth grade AMO, the fourth grade schools have the lowest representation on the SIFI list — only 25.7% of total schools that missed the fourth grade AMO, as opposed to 40.5% of eighth grade schools and 46.2% of tenth grade schools. Also, the majority of schools that missed the fourth grade AMO but were not on the SIFI list, 64.3%, achieved the other AMOs, while that was the case for only 21.6% of schools that missed the eighth grade AMO and 12.8% of their tenth grade counterparts.

As Table 4 shows, there are 37 schools in the region’s districts that failed to achieve the eighth grade WKCE AMO. Nearly all of them, 34, are MPS schools, while the remaining three are non-MPS Milwaukee charter schools. Twenty-six of the 37 schools missed both the reading and math AMO, while two missed just reading and nine missed only math. It should be noted here that, while middle schools are included in this category and can only miss the eighth grade WKCE AMO, there are K-8 schools that can miss both the fourth grade and eighth grade AMOs. There are eight such schools in Southeastern Wisconsin: charter schools Central City Cyberschool, Khamit Institute and Milwaukee Academy of Science; and MPS schools Gaenslen Elementary, Lee Elementary, Milwaukee Sign Language Elementary, Ralph H. Metcalfe Elementary, and Victory Elementary.

Thirty-nine schools missed the tenth grade WKCE AMO, 36 of which are in Milwaukee, and one each in Kenosha, Racine, and Norris. Thirty of the 36 schools missed both the reading and math AMO, while seven only missed reading, and two only missed math. There are two schools, St. Charles Youth and Family and Wisconsin Career Academy, that missed both the eighth grade and tenth grade AMOs.



Table 3. Region Schools that Missed 2002-03 4th Grade Annual Objective

District	School	Charter School	Reading % At/Above Proficient	Math % At/Above Proficient
Kenosha County				
Kenosha	Bain Elementary		37%	30%
Kenosha	*Columbus Elementary		55%	45%
Kenosha	Frank Elementary		54%	50%
Kenosha	Kenosha School of Language		60%	58%
Kenosha	Lincoln Elementary		60%	64%
Kenosha	Wilson/Marva Collins Elementary		55%	45%
Milwaukee County				
City of Milwaukee	Central City Cyberschool	x	48%	22%
City of Milwaukee	Khamit Institute	x	43%	0%
City of Milwaukee	YW Global Career Academy	x	50%	30%
Milwaukee Public Schools	AGAPE Center for Academic Excellence		30%	48%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Allen-Field Elementary		51%	47%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Auer Avenue Elementary		82%	16%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Browning Elementary		46%	25%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Bryant Elementary		42%	25%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Carleton Elementary		57%	35%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Carter Child Development		33%	17%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Cass Street Elementary		56%	18%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Clemens Elementary		60%	35%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Congress Elementary		48%	24%
Milwaukee Public Schools	*Cooper Elementary		56%	47%
Milwaukee Public Schools	*Doerfler Elementary		57%	27%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Douglass Elementary		42%	23%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Eighty-First Street Elementary		51%	49%
Milwaukee Public Schools	*Emerson Elementary		59%	29%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Engleburg Elementary		56%	28%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Fifty-Third Street Elementary		63%	27%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Forest Home Avenue Elementary		54%	39%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Fratney Elementary		54%	51%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Gaenslen Elementary		29%	24%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Garfield Avenue Elementary		52%	24%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Granville Elementary		43%	21%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Greenfield Bilingual		45%	40%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Happy Hill Elementary		47%	29%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Hayes City-Wide Bilingual School		40%	61%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Holmes Elementary		51%	26%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Hopkins Street Elementary		38%	31%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Kagel Elementary		36%	27%
Milwaukee Public Schools	La Causa		50%	25%

Note: Highlighting indicates missed objective, less than 61% at or above proficient in reading and less than 37% in math.

* Schools would achieve their objective in one or both subject categories if students in the school were measured rather than students in the school for the full academic year.



Table 3. Region Schools that Missed 2002-03 4th Grade Annual Objective

District	School	Charter School	Reading % At/Above Proficient	Math % At/Above Proficient
Milwaukee Public Schools	LaFollette Elementary	x	55%	34%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Lee Elementary		48%	32%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Longfellow Elementary		45%	27%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Lowell Elementary		62%	31%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Maple Tree Elementary		58%	26%
Milwaukee Public Schools	McNair Elementary		48%	52%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Milwaukee Sign Language Elementary		61%	28%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Mitchell Elementary		54%	36%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Palmer Elementary		58%	58%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Philipp Elementary		66%	30%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Ralph H Metcalfe Elementary		44%	25%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Sherman Elementary		52%	37%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Siefert Elementary		43%	27%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Sixty-Fifth Street Elementary		54%	11%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Starms Discovery Learning Center		69%	31%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Thirty-Eighth Street Elementary		36%	12%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Thirty-Fifth Street Elementary		56%	40%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Thurston Woods Elementary		68%	35%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Townsend Street Elementary		54%	42%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Trowbridge Street Elementary		50%	70%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Twenty-First Street Elementary		49%	24%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Urban Waldorf Elementary		41%	12%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Victory Elementary		62%	20%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Westside II Elementary	x	47%	59%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Wheatley Elementary		49%	40%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Whitman Elementary		53%	44%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Wisconsin Avenue Elementary		45%	34%
University of WI-Milwaukee	Milwaukee Academy of Science	x	56%	27%
University of WI-Milwaukee	Urban League Academy	x	33%	22%
Racine County				
Racine	Janes Elementary		58%	52%
Racine	*Knapp Elementary		60%	52%
Walworth County				
Delavan-Darien	Turtle Creek Elementary		59%	55%

Note: Highlighting indicates missed objective, less than 61% at or above proficient in reading and less than 37% in math.

* Schools would achieve their objective in one or both subject categories if students in the school were measured rather than students in the school for the full academic year.



Table 4. Region Schools that Missed 2002-03 8th Grade Annual Objective

District	School	Charter School	Reading % At/Above Proficient	Math % At/Above Proficient
Milwaukee County				
City of Milwaukee	Central City Cyberschool	x	39%	22%
City of Milwaukee	Khamit Institute	x	44%	33%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Audubon Middle School	x	62%	33%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Burroughs Middle School		52%	28%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Douglas Community Academy		37%	17%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Edison Middle School		40%	20%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Educational Possentem		33%	17%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Gaenslen Elementary		53%	42%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Global Learning Center		42%	10%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Grand Avenue Middle School		44%	27%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Hartford Avenue Elementary		57%	39%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Kosciuszko Middle School		31%	15%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Lad Lake Synergy South		56%	33%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Lee Elementary		53%	30%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Lincoln Middle School of the Arts		59%	35%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Malcolm X Academy	x	35%	19%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Milwaukee Education Center		63%	33%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Milwaukee Leadership Training Center	x	75%	25%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Milwaukee Sign Language Elementary		72%	28%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Milwaukee Village School		21%	0%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Muir Middle School		51%	29%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Ralph H Metcalfe Elementary		63%	29%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Robinson Middle School		42%	19%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Sarah Scott Middle School		48%	20%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Sholes Middle School		51%	32%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Silver Spring Neighborhood		35%	17%
Milwaukee Public Schools	St Charles Behav Reassign Success Acad		25%	0%
Milwaukee Public Schools	St Charles Youth & Family Ex Ed		0%	0%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Steuben Middle School		63%	18%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Story Elementary		60%	36%
Milwaukee Public Schools	United Community Center Middle School		27%	18%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Victory Elementary		78%	36%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Walker (SWELL)		30%	10%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Webster Middle School		49%	21%
Milwaukee Public Schools	WI Conservatory of Lifelong Learning		68%	36%
Milwaukee Public Schools	*Wisconsin Career Academy	x	72%	34%
University of WI-Milwaukee	Milwaukee Academy of Science	x	42%	24%

Note: Highlighting indicates missed objective, less than 61% at or above proficient in reading and less than 37% in math.

* Schools would achieve their objective in one or both subject categories if students in the school were measured rather than students in the school for the full academic year.



Table 5. Region Schools that Missed 2002-03 10th Grade Annual Objective

District	School	Charter School	Reading % At/Above Proficient	Math % At/Above Proficient
Kenosha County				
Kenosha	Reuther Central High School		35%	10%
Milwaukee County				
Milwaukee Public Schools	ASSATA		22%	0%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Aurora Weier Educational Center		18%	0%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Bay View High School		49%	38%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Bradley Technology & Trade High School		48%	34%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Career Youth Development School of Excel		55%	22%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Cornerstone Achievement Academy Inc		54%	18%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Custer High School		26%	10%
Milwaukee Public Schools	El Puente High School		36%	18%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Grandview Alternative High Partnership		47%	31%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Hamilton High School		44%	40%
Milwaukee Public Schools	HR Academy		0%	0%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Juneau High School	x	47%	24%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Kilmer South Alternative High School		24%	17%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Lad Lake Synergy North		17%	17%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Lady Pitts School Age Parent		33%	33%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Learning Enterprise of Wisconsin		25%	0%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Madison High School		27%	20%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Marshall High School		25%	10%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Metropolitan High School		46%	38%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Milwaukee County Youth Education Center		33%	17%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Milwaukee School of Languages		51%	40%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Milwaukee Spectrum School		18%	0%
Milwaukee Public Schools	North Division High School		13%	7%
Milwaukee Public Schools	NOVA		31%	15%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Phoenix	x	22%	13%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Project STAY		66%	33%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Pulaski High School		40%	28%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Riverside High School		56%	44%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Shalom High School		27%	0%
Milwaukee Public Schools	South Division High School		23%	19%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Spotted Eagle High School (MAAIC)		48%	14%
Milwaukee Public Schools	St Charles Youth & Family Ex Ed		22%	22%
Milwaukee Public Schools	*Veritas High School	x	67%	36%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Vincent High School		39%	24%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Washington High School		31%	18%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Wisconsin Career Academy	x	58%	48%
Racine County				
Racine	Horlick High School		55%	47%
Waukesha County				
Norris	Norris High School		17%	33%

Note: Highlighting indicates missed objective, less than 61% at or above proficient in reading and less than 37% in math.

* Schools would achieve their objective in one or both subject categories if students in the school were measured rather than students in the school for the full academic year.



Sixty-two Schools Miss Attendance/ Graduation Rate Objective

The attendance and graduation rate measures were not included in the determination of which schools were identified for improvement following the 2002-03 school year. The most recent data available are from 2001-02, which means that they are not from the same year as the WKCE indicators. Also, although the goal is that all students achieve at least 90% of the statewide attendance or graduation rate, a school can fail to do so and still achieve the AMO by showing improvement from the previous year's rate. In this Research Brief, we just include those schools that did not achieve the 90% mark without reference to whether or not they posted an improvement. It is important to gauge the attendance and graduation rates since they are a valuable measure of a school's ability to educate and serve its students. It should also be noted that a high school can miss both the attendance rate and graduation rate AMOs. However, if a school has a graduation rate, we did not report on its attendance rate since it is not required by NCLB for high schools to meet both standards.

Schools had to have an attendance rate of at least 84.9% in order to meet their AMO. Table 6 below shows that 22 schools failed to achieve that rate, 21 of which are in Milwaukee and one of which is in Racine. Eight of the schools also showed up on the SIFI list for 2002-03, while seven schools that were not on the list also missed their WKCE AMO in 2002-03.

Schools had to achieve a graduation rate of at least 81.8% in order to make their AMO. Table 7 on the following page shows that 40 schools failed this objective: 33 in MPS, two in Kenosha, three in Racine, one in Saint Francis, and one in West Allis. Sixteen of the 40 schools are also on the SIFI list, while 15 of the remaining schools also missed their 2002-03 WKCE AMO.

Table 6. Region Schools that Missed 2001-02 Attendance Annual Objective

District	School	Charter School	Rate
Milwaukee County			
Milwaukee Public Schools	A. Douglas Early Childhood Center		83.1%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Bruce Guadalupe Headstart North		81.6%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Douglas Community Academy		80.1%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Edison Middle School		83.7%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Educational Possentem		73.8%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Global Learning Center		83.1%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Headstart-Central Services Building		84.8%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Kosciuszko Middle School		82.9%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Lad Lake Synergy North		69.1%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Malcom X Academy		83.2%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Milwaukee Leadership Training Center	x	77.1%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Milwaukee Village School		74.9%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Project Excel		70.1%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Sholes Middle School		77.0%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Silver Spring Neighborhood		82.0%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Southeastern Success Academy		69.0%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Southwest Key Intensive Day		82.5%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Steuben Middle School		79.3%
Milwaukee Public Schools	United Community Center Middle School		74.3%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Veritas High School	x	79.1%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Walker (SWELL)		70.9%
Racine County			
Racine	Middle School Academy		79.3%



Table 7. Region Schools that Missed 2001-02 Graduation Annual Objective

District	School	Charter	Rate
Kenosha County			
Kenosha	Hillcrest High School		0.0%
Kenosha	Kenosha House of Corrections		0.0%
Milwaukee County			
Milwaukee Public Schools	ASSATA	x	57.1%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Aurora Weier Educational Center		22.2%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Bay View High School		56.9%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Bradley Technology and Trade High School		76.5%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Career Youth Development School of Excel		69.0%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Cornerstone Achievement Academy Inc		35.5%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Custer High School		35.9%
Milwaukee Public Schools	El Puente High School		48.8%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Hamilton High School		78.7%
Milwaukee Public Schools	HR Academy		81.0%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Kilmer South Alternative High School		53.0%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Lad Lake Ultra		16.7%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Lady Pitts School Age Parent		40.9%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Learning Enterprise Voc & Trng Inst		63.6%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Loyola Academy		53.7%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Madison High School		49.1%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Marshall High School		66.0%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Metropolitan High School		54.7%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Milwaukee Area Technical College		5.9%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Milwaukee County Youth Education Center		0.0%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Milwaukee Spectrum School		50.8%
Milwaukee Public Schools	North Division High School		35.0%
Milwaukee Public Schools	NOVA		66.7%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Project School to Work		68.4%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Project STAY		23.3%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Project Stay Senior Institute		68.8%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Pulaski High School		61.6%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Shalom High School		51.9%
Milwaukee Public Schools	South Division High School		51.2%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Spotted Eagle High School (MAAIC)		50.0%
Milwaukee Public Schools	St Charles Youth & Family Ex Ed		11.1%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Vincent High School		67.8%
Milwaukee Public Schools	Washington High School		44.6%
Saint Francis	Horizon Academy	x	50.0%
West Allis	Academy of Learning Competency Based School	x	77.1%
Racine County			
Racine	Case High	x	76.8%
Racine	Horlick High School		61.9%
Racine	Keith R Mack Achievement Center		0.0%

Note: Some of these schools are alternative and/or serve primarily at-risk students and thus have lower rates than would be expected otherwise.



Regional Schools' Performance on No Child Left Behind Measures

The Public Policy Forum's annual report on Public Schooling in Southeastern Wisconsin is now available. It ranks school districts on a variety of indicators and analyzes some of them based on their compliance with the No Child Left Behind Act. This Research Brief provides a look at the schools which missed performance measures spelled out by the law.

Our findings include:

- Most schools — 55 out of 60 — that were identified under federal law for improvement based on their failure to achieve the same objective for at least two consecutive years are Milwaukee Public Schools.
- Although the largest number of schools in the region missed the fourth grade standardized test objective, schools that missed the eighth and tenth grade objectives were more likely to also be identified for improvement.
- Seven schools are on the Schools Identified for Improvement List for the third consecutive year; if they fail to get off the list next year, they will have to be restructured using alternative governance.

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